



June 2017

Horseneck Beach State Reservation

5 John Reed Road, Westport

(508) 636-8816

horseneck.beach@state.ma.us

Park Website: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-south/horseneck-beach-state-reservation.html>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Beachcomber Scavenger Hunt 2:00pm – 3:00pm	16 Creature Feature 10:00am – 12:00pm Beach Exploration 2:00pm – 3:00pm	17 Creature feature 2:30pm – 3:30pm Evening Beach Ramble 5:00pm – 6:00pm Night Hike 8:00pm – 9:15pm
18 Crab Hunt 9:00am – 10:00am Sand Science 11:00am – 12:00pm Gooseberry Island: Changes Through Time 2:00pm – 3:00pm	19	20	21 Horseneck Point Life Saving Station 12:00pm – 4:00pm	22 Creature Feature 10:00am – 12:00pm Beachcomber Scavenger Hunt 2:00pm – 3:00pm	23 Creature Feature 10:00am – 12:00pm Crab Hunt 1:30pm – 2:30pm	24 Horseneck Point Life Saving Station 12:00pm – 4:00pm Creature feature 2:30pm – 3:30pm Evening Beach Ramble 5:00pm – 6:00pm Night Hike 8:00pm – 9:15pm
25 Gooseberry Island: Changes Through Time 8:00am – 9:00am Sand Science 11:00am – 12:00pm Horseneck Point Life Saving Station 12:00pm – 4:00pm Crab Hunt 2:30pm – 3:30pm	26	27	28 Horseneck Point Life Saving Station 12:00pm – 4:00pm	29 Creature Feature 10:00am – 12:00pm Beachcomber Scavenger Hunt 2:00pm – 3:00pm	30 Creature Feature 10:00am – 12:00pm Beach Exploration 2:00pm – 3:00pm	

Program Descriptions

Things to Know Before You Go!

- All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
- All children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Reasonable accommodations are available upon advance request.
- Dress for the weather; bring sunscreen, bug spray, water and a snack.
- Rain cancels most programs; call ahead to confirm (508) 636-8817.
- Please note, from April 1st to September 15th dogs and other pets are not authorized on the beach, with the exception of service animals, per DCR regulations.
- A daily parking fee of \$13 MA Vehicle, \$15 non-MA. Please note that the non-MA Vehicle daily parking fee will increase to \$20 on July 1, 2017.
- Information about our annual ParksPass can be found here <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/passes-and-fees/buy-parks-pass-dcr-generic.html>. Seniors (62+, MA resident) can get a lifetime Parks Pass for \$10 at the Park Headquarters.

Evening Beach Ramble	This is a great opportunity to explore Horseneck Beach as the sun is getting lower in the sky, the day's heat is fading and the evening is upon us. Each week, we will see where the beach takes and us explore what we happen upon, so join us for some fun at the beach! Meet in front of the Horseneck Beach Main Building on the main beach (by the blue posts that hold up the shade shelter). Rain cancels.
Creature Feature	Learn about some of the creatures that live here at Horseneck Beach. Each week, we will focus on a different topic. Meet at table set up at the end of Horseneck Beach boardwalk. Rain cancels.
Gooseberry Island Walk: Changes Through Time	<p>Gooseberry Island has gone through many changes due to both natural disturbance and man-made disturbance. We'll explore those changes on a moderately strenuous hike around Gooseberry Island. The island has a path that runs through the middle of it and we'll also walk along the perimeter of part of the island. The terrain can be difficult, so please wear supportive shoes, wear sun block and bring water. Program is best suited for adults and older children. Rain cancels.</p> <p>Meet at the Gooseberry Island Parking Lot. Gooseberry Island is located just past the entrance to Horseneck Beach State Reservation. Follow Route 88 all the way to the end (it is also called Old John Reed Road), then take a right onto E Beach Road. Go Straight on E Beach Road and it will bring you right to the beginning of the causeway for Gooseberry Island. Follow the causeway to the dirt parking lot. There is no parking fee; however parking is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. You can also park before the causeway and walk over to the Gooseberry Island Parking Lot.</p>

Beachcomber Scavenger Hunt	Explore the ever-changing, dynamic landscape of Horseneck Beach. Search for objects of interest washed up on the shore and discover the lore and history behind your found items. All ages are welcome. Meet in front of the Horseneck Beach Main Building on the main beach (by the blue posts that hold up the shade shelter). Rain cancels.
Beach Night Hike	Have you ever explored the beach at night? What happens when the sun goes down and the stars come out? Find out on this great hike along Horseneck Beach in the dark. Flashlights are not allowed! Meet at the camping area bathhouse. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Park at the camping area; let attendant know you are there for the Beach Night Hike with the Park Interpreter. There is no parking fee for this program. Rain cancels.
Crab Hunt!	<p>What lives under the rocks on the shore? Come find out at Gooseberry Island as we search the intertidal zone for creatures, seaweeds, and more. We provide nets and buckets – or bring your own. Please wear shoes that can get wet. No bare feet or flip-flops. Rain cancels.</p> <p>Meet at the Gooseberry Island Parking Lot. Gooseberry Island is located just past the entrance to Horseneck Beach State Reservation. Follow Route 88 all the way to the end (it is also called Old John Reed Road), then take a right onto E Beach Road. Go Straight on E Beach Road and it will bring you right to the beginning of the causeway for Gooseberry Island. Follow the causeway to the dirt parking lot. There is no parking fee; however parking is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. You can also park before the causeway and walk over to the Gooseberry Island Parking Lot.</p>
Beach Exploration	Horseneck Beach is part of a larger coastal ecosystem that includes not only the beach but also the dunes area, a nearby salt marsh and the waters of Buzzards Bay. Come explore the different zones that make up a sandy beach environment. We will also see how the coastal plants and animals interact together as a system. Meet in front of the Horseneck Beach Main Building on the main beach (by the blue posts that hold up the shade shelter). Rain cancels.
Horseneck Point Life Saving Station Open House	<p>Horseneck Point Life Saving Station Visitor Center Open Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays 12:00noon to 4:00pm from June 21st to Sept. 3rd.</p> <p>The Horseneck Point Life Saving Station dates back to 1888, when it was built by the Humane Society of Massachusetts, originally at the Westport Harbor entrance on the west end of Horseneck Beach. The station was a 16' x 34' simple shingled post and beam structure with a pitched roof; designed to house a 30' lifeboat named "Westport" and associated equipment. In 1894 it was moved to its present location at the end of East Beach near the causeway to Gooseberry Island.</p>

	<p>This important part of Westport’s maritime history has been restored and preserved by the Westport Fishermen’s Association through a long term lease with the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Historic Curatorship Program, along with incredible support from the local community. Through the Historic Curatorship program, some of DCR’s unused but significant historic buildings are rehabilitated, reused and maintained by an outside party in return for a long term lease.</p> <p>While open, curators will be available to share information about the history of this Lifesaving Station. This year’s special exhibit “Notorious Shipwrecks off Westport” is free and open to the public. Come and see wonderful photographs, information, and maritime treasures representing a heroic and historic timeline from the late 18th century through today. Co-sponsored with the Westport Fisherman’s Association, http://www.westportriver.org/. No parking fee. The Life Saving Station is located at 241 East Beach Road in Westport. Call with any questions or to set up a private tour date and time at <u>(774) 264- 9200</u>. Rain or shine.</p>
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